

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

for

Rosie Lee Benford



Sunrise

December 22, 1940

Sunset

February 10, 2013

*Fear thou not; for I am with
thee: be not dismayed;
for I am thy God: I will
strengthen thee; yea,
I will help thee;
Isaiah 41:10*

Home Going Celebration

*Tuesday, February 19, 2013,
Ten O'clock in the Morning*

*True Vine Baptist Church
505 S. White Road, San Jose CA 95127*

Officiating:

Pastor Claudell Huey, New Mission COGIC

*Facilitator: Bishop J.W. Macklin
2nd Assistant Presiding Bishop
Church Of God in Christ, Inc.*

The Life of Rosie Lee Benford

Rosie Lee Benford, (known to many as "Roses"), was born on December 22, 1940, in Lumpkin, Georgia, to Pelmon and Charlie Bell Thornton. Pelmon Thornton preceded her in death. She was the older of two children. Rosie was educated in Lumpkin School District until the 5th grade, after which her family relocated to Chicago, Illinois, June of 1952. Rosie continued her education at Sheppard Grammar and graduated from Harrison High Class of 1958.

At an early age Rose and her family united with New Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, under leadership of Late Reverend C. B. Bishop. She was a faithful member of the youth choir, Sunday school, and many other ministries.

In 1957, she met the love of her life, Robert Lee Benford, and on October 24, 1959, they were married. To this 53 year union four daughters were born, Vanessa, Deborah, Cheryl, and Ranisha. In 1996, Rose and Robert took in their god son, Mark Robinson, who still resides in their home.

During Rose's time in Chicago she was employed by Novy Real-Estate until the family relocated to California in 1968, where Rose continued her employment with the following corporations: 1st National Bank, General Electric, IBM Corporation, and Northrop Grumman.

Roses had a wonderful and full life. She loved to shop, sew, knit, crochet, entertain guests in her home, and travel. Her travels took to her many, places, such as Hong Kong, Red China, Acapulco, many parts of Mexico, Hawaii, Jamaica, New York, and so many others.

The family joined Prayer Garden Church of God in Christ, under the leadership of the late Bishop Milton Mathis. It was here that Rose was saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. Rose served faithfully for 26 years in the Sunday school department, the Voices of Praise, church mother to the Singspiration Choir, church secretary and personal secretary to Bishop Mathis. She had a heart and passion for ministry, and a love for God's people. There was not Sunday that you would not find the Benford's home open and overflowing with young people.

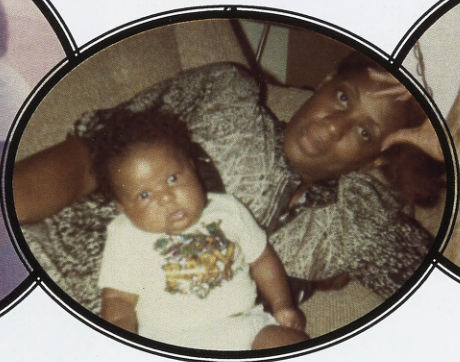
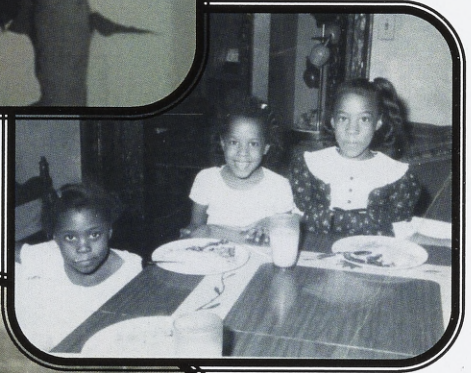
After the passing of Bishop Mathis, she then ventured out with Pastor Claudell Huey, and was instrumental in the organization of New Mission Church of God in Christ. She served faithfully at New Mission for 25 years as church administrator, Sunshine Band leader, Pastoral Care leader, and as a choir member. Whatever she put her hands to do, she gave 100%!

Rose most prize possession in this life was her family. She loved spending time with family, especially around holidays. She was a great support to her grandchildren, traveled hundreds of miles to attend sporting events, graduations, and all in which they were involved.

On February 10, 2013, the Lord called her home to be with Him. She leaves to cherish her legacy, her loving **Husband** Robert L. Benford, **4 Daughters** Vanessa D. Saffold (Pastor Terrance Saffold, Sr.), Stockton, CA, Deborah Benford and Cheryl Benford, Hayward, CA, and Ranisha Benford, San Jose, CA (Son in-law to be Andre Watson), Blacksburg, VA, **6 grandchildren**, Terrance L. Saffold, Jr., Torijean Saffold, Terjean Saffold, Teoria Saffold, T'Keyah Saffold, and Kendra Rose Croft, **Mother** Charlie B. Thornton and **Sister** Mary Leonard, Chicago, IL, **4 godchildren** Gaye Harris and, Kayla Clement, Fremont, CA, Rhonda Hopkins, Monterey CA, and Mark Robinson, San Jose, CA, and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, great nieces/nephews, close friends and church family. Rose will be greatly missed, but never forgotten.



Our Journey



Order of Worship

Facilitator - Bishop Jerry W Macklin

Processional

Choir..... Mass Choir
Scripture (Old Testament)..... Elder James Tucker
Scripture ~ New Testament..... Brother Andre Watson
Prayer Elder Stuart Peyton
Favorite Congregational Song..... God is a Good God
Solo..... Sister Pamela Sharp
Expressions 2 Minutes..... Church Family & Friends
Choir..... Mass Choir
Expressions Clergy Pulpit

Reverend Dewayne Davis

New Morning Star M. B. Church, Chicago, Illinois

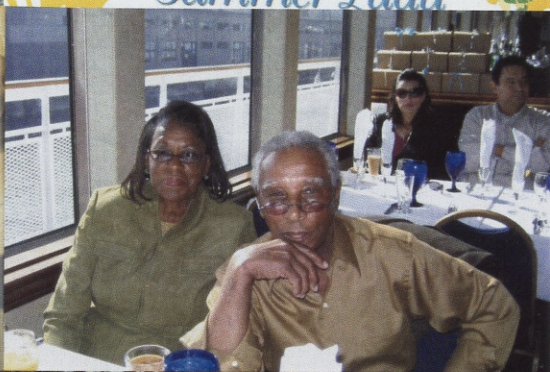
Acknowledgement

(Reading of Cards/Condolences)..... Sister Stacey Tucker
Reading of Resolutions..... Sister Lenora Reed
Obituary Reading Please Read Silently
Family Expressions..... Niece Lanya Oglesby
Husband Robert L. Benford
Grandson Terrance L. Saffold Jr.
Pastor Terrance L. Saffold Sr.
Solo..... Elder Demetrius Tolefree Sr
Eulogy Pastor Claudell Huey
New Mission Church of God in Christ
Final Viewing Chapel of Flowers

Recessional







"A Love Built to Last"

Active Pallbearers

Brother Jermaine William
Brother Brett T. Morgan
Clevester Hines Jr.

Brother Jeffrey Reed
Brother Paul Porter
Curtis Funderburk

Honorary Pallbearers

Brother Terrance L Saffold, Jr.
Brother Terjean D Saffold
Brother Timothy Saffold, Jr.

Brother Tori Jean D. Saffold
Brother Andre Watson
Brother Anthony M. Rhodes

Acknowledgement

Thank you for your love and support during this difficult time. Our darkest days have been brightened because of the calls you made, the cards you sent or the dishes you prepared. Please know that you have our eternal gratitude, and thanks for keeping us in your prayers.

Robert L Benford and Family!

Repast

*Immediately following interment at True Vine Baptist Church,
505 S. White Road, San Jose CA 95127*

Special Thanks

*Pastor Claudell Huey & New Mission Church of God in Christ
Bishop J.W. Macklin & Glad Tidings Church of God in Christ
Sister Marcia Tranito & Glad Tidings Hospitality
Sister Karen Charlo & Greater Maranatha Hospitality
Reverend Jones & True Vine Baptist Church
Elder Stuart Peyton
Mother Clara Owens
Elder James and Sister Stacey Tucker
Sister Katina Hines
Frances Gatson
Brother Anthony M. Rhodes
Sister Eugenia Taylor
Brother Rob Sammons
Terri Ho (Mom's nurse)*

Arrangements

Chapel of Flowers 900 South 2nd Street, San Jose CA 95112

Interment:

*Oak Hill Funeral Home & Memorial Park, 300 Curtner Avenue
San Jose, CA 95125*